

Connecticut State Legislature as the representative from the 56th district, his hometown of Vernon. He served until 1983 and the highlights of his tenure include supporting important legislation that provided a greater quality of life for Connecticut's citizenry through improvements like smoke-free restaurants and free tuition for Connecticut National Guardsman attending state colleges and universities.

Chet was also a staunch advocate for working families during his time in the legislature. In the 1960s he was a member of the International Association of Machinists while employed at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft. He was a courageous leader in a difficult strike in that era, and he and his closest friend, Chuck Harlow, manned the picket lines at the height of the struggles. He enjoyed telling those stories in the later years, particularly after Chuck passed away suddenly in the 1980s.

In 1986 when I launched my first campaign for the legislative seat Chet had held earlier, he generously helped me win that race, which I will never forget. Later as a candidate for the Second Congressional District, Chet volunteered to drive me to political events and offered valuable counsel during the long hours we spent together on the road.

Chet was also very involved in local government and community organizations. He served four terms on the Vernon Town Council and was chairman of the Vernon Planning and Zoning Committee in 2011 and 2012. He was actively involved in the Connecticut State Employees Association Local 2001, the Rockville American Legion Post 14, and the Rockville Lodge of Elks No. 1359, where he was recognized as Veteran Volunteer of the Year by the Elks National Veterans Service Commission.

And while I'm sure this comes as a surprise to no one, Chet was a model family man. He and his wife Sylvia celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary last year. Together they raised three children, Kevin, Daniel and Laura Beth who collectively gifted them with 16 grandchildren and great-grandchildren. It's clear Chet impressed the importance of service upon his children and grandchildren, as several of them have followed in his footsteps of service to this country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in honoring Chet Morgan, a man to whom we can all look as a model of leadership and service. Chet's loss will be felt for years to come but his legacy will endure for much longer.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 18, 2018*

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, for personal reasons, I was unable to vote yesterday, July 17, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted: Yea on Roll Call No. 331; Yea on Roll Call No. 332; Yea on Roll Call No. 333; Yea on Roll Call No. 334; and Yea on Roll Call No. 335.

#### RUSSIA ENERGY INTERESTS IN EUROPE

#### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 18, 2018*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, control of energy equals national security.

I rise to warn how Russia through hybrid warfare seeks to destabilize and divide our closest European Allies through control of their energy supply. As Americans well know, whoever controls the energy spigot, controls the function of a nation. Russia uses its growing dominance of energy in Europe as its primary pressure point to destabilize the West and our alliances.

That is why I was floored that President Trump inserted himself so haphazardly into Europe's energy debate. Nord Stream II poses new, troubling dependency threats by Russia on Europe's energy security.

It boosts undemocratic Russia's claw hold on the European continent.

Russia is weaponizing energy in countries across Europe, including Germany and Ukraine, creating a dangerous new dependency by recipient nations. The fight for Ukraine's liberty depends on its energy independence in the future. The free world must help Europe and Ukraine to reduce their economic reliance on Russian gas.

Risking alienation of nations that share freedom's values is counterproductive. It aids and abets our enemies.

I include in the RECORD President Trump's and Putin's comments.

EXCERPT OF PRESIDENT TRUMP'S AND PRESIDENT PUTIN'S PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING THEIR SUMMIT IN HELSINKI, JULY 2018

RESPONSES TO A QUESTION ABOUT ENERGY IN EUROPE AND THE NORDSTREAM II PIPELINE PROJECT

Trump: Well, actually I called him a competitor. And a good competitor he is. And I think the word "competitor" is a compliment. I think that we will be completing when you talk about the pipeline. I'm not sure, necessarily, that it's in the best interests of Germany or not, but that was a decision that they made. We'll be competing—as you know, the United States is now—or soon will be, but I think it actually is right now the largest in the oil and gas world.

So we're going to be selling LNG, and we'll have to be competing with the pipeline and I think we'll compete successfully, although there is a little advantage locationally.

So I just wish them luck. I mean, I did. I discussed with Angela Merkel in pretty strong tones. But I also know where they're all coming from and they have a very close source. So we'll see how that all works out.

Putin: We are aware of the stance of President Trump, and I think that we, as a major oil and gas power, and the United States as a major oil and gas power as well, we could work together on regulation of international markets, because neither of us is actually interested in the plummeting of the prices. And the consumers will suffer as well, and the consumers in the United States will suffer as well. And the shale gas production will suffer. Because beyond a sudden price break-up (ph), it's no longer profitable to—to produce gas.

But nor we are interested in driving prices up, because it will drain just as—just as from all other sectors of the economy, from (in-

audible) building (ph), et cetera. So we do have space for cooperation here.

That's the first thing.

Then about the Nord Stream 2, Mr. President voiced his concerns about the possibility of disappearance of transit through Ukraine. And I reassured Mr. President that Russia stands ready to maintain this transit. Moreover, we stand ready to extend this transit contract that's about to expire next year in case—if the dispute between the economic entities—dispute will be settled in the Stockholm arbitration court.

H.R. 3030, H.R. 5480, H.R. 5105, H.R. 4819

#### HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 18, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday we voted on a number of critical pieces of legislation. One of these, which I supported, was H.R. 3030, the Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act of 2017, sponsored by my friend ANN WAGNER.

This bill will strengthen our efforts to anticipate, prevent, and mitigate genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes.

Our Foreign Service officers are often on the front lines where there is a risk or reality of atrocity crimes. H.R. 3030 will ensure they have the right training to recognize and respond to early warning signs of such crimes. This legislation will also strengthen Congressional oversight by requiring the President to annually report on what is happening on the ground, how the United States has responded, and recommendations for strengthening U.S. response. I was proud to cosponsor this bill and I commend my colleagues for supporting it.

I commend my colleague for naming this bill after the late, iconic Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel. He spoke so powerfully about the unique, persistent evil of anti-Semitism that generated the Holocaust, warning that "the antisemite is by definition ideologically fanatic and pathologically racist . . . an antisemite is someone who has never met me, never heard of me, yet he hates me."

Mr. Wiesel and I worked together at the historic 2004 Berlin conference of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. There 55 participating governments committed to specific, significant actions to combat anti-Semitism. They were following the parliamentary movement to get the OSCE to fully and forcefully fight anti-Semitism. That movement originated in a Helsinki Commission hearing I chaired in May 2002 and I was proud to lead this movement together with parliamentarians from Germany, the UK, and France.

In his Berlin keynote address, Mr. Wiesel said, "We know . . . that anti-Semitism is dangerous not only to Jews but to countries too, where it is allowed to flourish . . . When a Jew is slapped in the face, humankind itself falls to ground . . . Antisemitism is rooted in hatred; its language is a language of hatred, its doctrine is filled with hatred—and hatred by its nature, always runs overboard, crossing geographical boundaries and ethnic affiliations. It is a contagious disease."

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Wiesel also dedicated his life to the prevention of other genocides, calling for action to prevent genocides in Bosnia,

Rwanda, and Sudan. Yet another genocide was committed after Sudan, this one against Christians, Yazidis, and other religious and ethnic minorities in Iraq and Syria by ISIS. The survival of these ancient communities depends on humanitarian, stabilization, and recovery assistance from the United States and other countries.

Last June this house unanimously passed H.R. 390, the Iraq and Syria Genocide Emergency Relief and Accountability Act, so that our aid reaches the genocide survivors and perpetrators are held accountable. The Senate has still not been given the opportunity to vote on this urgently needed legislation. I again call for the Senate to pass H.R. 390 now and send it to the President for his signature. This legislation will significantly strengthen the ongoing efforts of his Administration to directly help Christian and Yazidi genocide survivors at risk of extinction.

Another critical piece of legislation for which I voted in support was the Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act, H.R. 5480.

Chairman ROYCE's Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act expands, and improves upon, our previous microenterprise legislation. By way of background, the Committee on Foreign Affairs has a long history in this field, dating back at least to former chairman Ben Gilman's Microenterprise for Self-Reliance and International Anti-Corruption Act of 2000. I myself introduced the Microenterprise Results and Accountability Act of 2004, and a bill that amended the 2000 legislation, both of which became law.

In keeping with a deeper understanding of how to combat poverty and maintaining a needed focus on women, Chairman ROYCE's bill broadens the scope from microenterprise to include small and medium enterprises. While it is important to make sure that the very poor are not being neglected, small and medium enterprises help power development and thereby empower the poor. Thus I encouraged all to support H.R. 5480 and the House voted to pass the legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I also supported H.R. 5105, the BUILD Act.

I thank my friend and colleague, Mr. TED YOHO of Florida, for offering this critical and visionary legislation. This legislation will modernize development finance to benefit the developing world, consistent with U.S. policy objectives.

To cite one critical component, the BUILD Act serves to counteract China's strategy in Africa, which uses development finance as a means to serve China's ends, even if that means propping up brutal dictators.

I thank Chairman ED ROYCE for his leadership in guiding this legislation through the Foreign Affairs Committee, and for his responsiveness to concerns I had relayed, relating to China.

In particular, I appreciate changes made to the initial draft of this bill concerning the denominating of future loans in foreign currencies.

While the International Development Finance Corporation that this legislation would create needs to have flexibility, including issuing loans in foreign currencies, we must remember it is also the long-term geostrategic goal of China, Russia, and certain other countries to replace the dollar as the world's reserve currency.

I therefore appreciate Chairman ROYCE's amended text, which adds, "Foreign currency denominated loans and guaranties should only be provided if the Board determines there is a substantive policy rationale for such loans and guaranties."

Beyond this, however, there should be a clear policy statement on the importance and overall strategic interest in retaining the dollar as the world's reserve currency. Indeed, earlier this year, China met with central bankers from 14 African nations to discuss the viability of using China's yuan as the reserve currency for the region.

This nonetheless underscores the urgency for creating an International Development Finance Corporation, which the BUILD Act accomplishes, while underscoring the need for policy guidance that loans in foreign currencies not be used to undermine reserve dollar dominance.

I further voiced support of H.R. 4819, the DELTA Act, introduced by my friend and colleague Mr. JEFF FORTENBERRY of Nebraska, of which I was a cosponsor.

There is much in this bill to recommend it—from prioritizing anti-poaching and wildlife trafficking efforts in the greater Okavango River Basin, to helping preserve the majestic elephant and other endangered species, to providing sustainable livelihoods for local communities.

One other aspect of this bill which I highlighted was that it enables us to partner with, and coordinate efforts with, the countries of Botswana, Namibia and Angola.

Botswana and Namibia in particular are two countries which are often overlooked, but which have made great strides in recent years towards becoming responsible partners. Both are, in the context of Africa, good places in which to do business, and should be commended for their efforts in improving governance. Their partnership in the greater Okavango initiative underscores this trend.

Angola is a nation which, after decades of civil war followed by strongman rule, is beginning to tackle corruption under new President João Lourenço. While it remains to be seen how far and how quickly Angola can go toward becoming a reliable partner and a country in which to do business, its inclusion as a DELTA Act partner country is a sign of confidence in the future.

I urged my colleagues to support the DELTA Act, and it also passed the House yesterday.

---

#### CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF FLEET READINESS CENTER-EAST IN HONOR OF THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

---

**HON. WALTER B. JONES**

OF NORTH CAROLINA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 18, 2018*

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize a vital strategic asset for Marine aviation. Fleet Readiness Center-East (FRC-East) has been generating combat air power for America's Marines and naval forces for 75 years. The organizational history begins December 16, 1943, when it opened as the Assembly and Repair Department at Marine

Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina to perform aircraft maintenance for the air station and nearby airfields.

After distinguished and commendable service in the final years of World War II, the facility's name changed to the Overhaul and Repair Department. With the advent of the jet age, the depot continued to expand to meet the needs of combat aviation during the Korean War.

In the mid-1960s, the Depot specialized in Navy and Marine Corps rework and had become a vital source in supporting fleet operations during the Vietnam War. In 1967, the facility was organizationally detached from Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point and placed under Navy management as a naval air rework facility. In 1968, the facility ranked as the second largest industrial plant in North Carolina.

The late 1970s saw significant changes and modernization for the facility. It was during this period that the facility attained the highest degree of productivity in its history. The Depot received numerous awards for excellence in productivity and cost reduction.

During the 1980s and 1990s, the Depot received many upgrades to improve productivity, support and expand the aviation capabilities to keep current with new technology and workload. In November 1987, a team departed for the third time in history to Antarctica to repair an aircraft that had crashed nearly 16 years earlier. The facility was then renamed the Naval Aviation Depot.

The Depot provided assistance to the fleet in Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm in Iraq with field team deployments to various locations for engines, components, aircraft, ground support equipment and squadron support. Since this time, FRC-East supported the War in Iraq and Afghanistan and the Global War on Terrorism.

Today, FRC-East has grown to become the largest industrial employer east of Interstate 95 with 119 buildings and 2.1 million square feet, spanning over 147 acres valued at \$1.36 billion. The workforce includes more than 3,900 employees, which provide aircraft, engine and component maintenance, engineering and logistics support for U.S. forces and 24 foreign nations.

On this 75th anniversary year, I would like to thank the outstanding employees of FRC-East for their continued outstanding service and support to our nation, our allies, and its Eastern North Carolina community. I wish FRC-East continued success for its next 75 years of support to our warfighters.

---

#### HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF ED KIRKWOOD

---

**HON. MIKE KELLY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 18, 2018*

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my constituents from Butler, Pennsylvania, Mr. Ed Kirkwood. This Friday, July 20th, Ed will be retiring following over 34 years of commendable public service.

Ed has proudly served as the Butler Township Manager for the last 10 years. In this role, Ed oversaw the day-to-day operations of